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June 24, 2013

TO:

Each Supervisor

FROM:

Jonathan E. Fielding, M.D., M.P.H. /2 Fielding to Director and Health Officer

SUBJECT:

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES 2013 ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

This is to inform you that the Department of Public Health (DPH) Veterinary Public Health Program (VPH) has been recognized with the National Association of Counties (NACo) 2013 Achievement Award for its program, 2020 Healthy Pets Healthy Families (HPHF) Initiative. Each year, NACo recognizes outstanding and innovative local programs and posts abstracts about the programs on their website so that best practices may be shared and replicated.

The HPHF initiative is the first local program to apply the national Healthy People 2020 framework to the "One Health" concept, focusing on the connection between human health, animal health, and the ecosystem. HPHF aims to address several important human and animal health problems that affect the different communities within Los Angeles County, including: zoonotic (animal transmitted to human) diseases, dog bite prevention, obesity, second-hand smoke, disaster preparedness, spay-neuter, and vaccine preventable diseases.

Over the next decade, the HPHF initiative will guide DPH and its stakeholders and community partners in developing interventions targeted to improve animal and human health as well as gather data to monitor impact and identify best practices.

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please let me know.

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